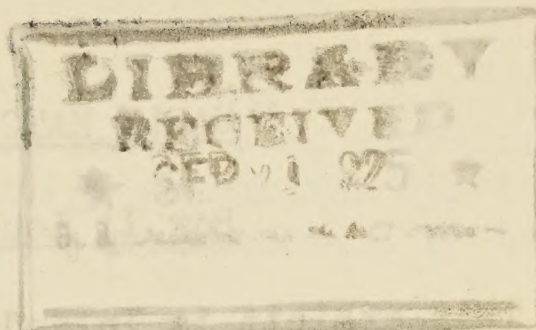


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service

Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

EARLY HATCHING

A booth exhibit showing what is meant by early hatching; and increased profits of this method over that of late hatching.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 13'-3" front, 8'-2"  
Wall space - - - - - None (deep.  
Shipping weight - - - - - 640 lbs.  
Electrical requirements - 110 volt A.C. or D.C.  
current 200 watts needed for lights.



## EARLY HATCHING

### How It Looks

This exhibit is intended to impress the poultry owner with the importance of early hatching. On the middle section is a painted scene partly obstructed by a very large billboard upon which are given, in large letters, five reasons for early hatching.

The left section is largely taken up by the reproduction of leaves of a very large calendar showing the months of March, April, May, June and July. The dates March 1st and May 15th are alternately illuminated from behind to call attention to the fact that these dates show when hatching should be started and finished. The months of June and July have been crossed off with marks showing that hatching should not be done in these months.

The right section shows a graph which gives the dates when early and late hatched pullets begin to lay. These dates are illuminated to show their importance from the standpoint of profits received which are shown by the returns of two flocks. This information is lettered on paintings of two large eggs near the top of the section.

### What It Tells

This exhibit endeavors to present the fundamental reasons for hatching early. It is pointed out that March, April and the first 15 days of May, is the most desirable time to hatch chicks, except in the Southern States, where hatching should be done about two weeks earlier. Chicks hatched in June and July are slow growing and likely to be unprofitable.

The fundamental reason for early hatching is to be found in the relatively greater value of fall and early winter eggs obtained from early hatched pullets as compared with late winter and spring and summer eggs obtained from late-hatched pullets. The price of eggs is shown to rise from about July through and including December; then it falls to and including April



and May. The fall and winter months are, therefore, the most profitable for high egg production and it is for this reason primarily that chicks should be hatched early.

#### Results Count:

A flock of 100 early hatched pullets given good feed and care should lay about 16,000 eggs the first laying year. These eggs would have a market value of about \$466.67.

A flock of 100 late-hatched pullets given the same feed and care will lay only about 9,000 eggs the first laying year. These eggs would sell on the market for about \$187.50.

The center panel gives in billboard form several reasons why it pays to hatch early, as follows:

Early hatching means early maturity.

Early maturity means early laying.

Early laying means more eggs in the fall and winter when prices are higher.

More fall and winter eggs mean greater annual production.

Greater annual production means more profits.

#### Where to Get Information

The following publication may be obtained free of charge from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Farmers' Bulletin 1363 - Natural and Artificial Incubation of Hen's Eggs



